

DRAFT

PATENT
ALBIHN W 3.3-258 CONT

PROPOSED CLAIMS AMENDMENT

11. (Amended) A method of producing a tablet including live bacteria comprising the steps:

a) mixing at least one strain of said live bacteria with at least one fructose oligosaccharide to form a mixture,

b) pressing said mixture into a tablet employing a force sufficient to form said tablet having a friability of between 0.1 and 1.0 while maintaining at least about 60% viability of said bacteria.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein said fructose oligosaccharide is present in an amount of about 40-99.5% by weight of said tablet.

14. The method of claim 11 wherein said fructose oligosaccharide is inulin.

15. The method of claim 11 wherein said bacteria are lactic acid producing bacteria.

16. (Amended) A method of producing a tablet including live bacteria comprising the steps:

a) mixing at least one strain of live lactic acid-producing bacteria with at least one fructose oligosaccharide to form a mixture; and

b) pressing said mixture into a tablet employing a force sufficient to form said tablet having a friability of between 0.1 and 1.0 while maintaining at least about 60% viability of said lactic acid-producing bacteria.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein said fructose oligosaccharide is inulin.